



BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer
of Health**

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1925

WINDSOR:

LUFF AND SONS, PRINTERS, 47, ST. LEONARD'S ROAD



BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer
of Health**

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1925

WINDSOR:

LUFF AND SONS, PRINTERS, 47, ST. LEONARD'S ROAD



BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR

Public Health Committee

Chairman :

Alderman G. MITCHELL, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

SIR WILLIAM FAIRBANK, K.C.V.O., J.P.

The Mayor :

SIR WILLIAM CARTER, J.P. (*Ex-Officio*).

Alderman A. W. GREEN.

„ P. HAMILTON.

„ A. HARRIS, J.P.

Councillor F. M. CAREY.

Councillor J. H. JOHNS.

„ G. CRIPPS.

„ E. PRIDMORE.

„ A. H. CUSWORTH.

„ H. T. SLOANE.

„ SIR F. DYSON, J.P.

„ W. G. STONEHAM.

„ A. FOREMAN, J.P.

„ R. WALKER.

„ F. HARDING.

Medical Officer of Health :


A. DOUGLAS CROFTS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. LOND.

Public Analyst : PROF. W. R. SMITH, M.D., D.SC., F.R.S. ED.

Sanitary Inspector : F. ARNOLD.

Health Visitor : A. I. McALLISTER.

School Nurse : C. O. HART.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30283644>

1925



BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR, MRS. CAREY, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my ANNUAL
REPORT as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1925.

(I) GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	4,616
Population, 1925--	
Estimated (For Birth Rate)	20,140
,, (For Death Rate)	19,280
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	4,076
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	4,322
Rateable Value	£112,815
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£442
Amount of Poor Law Relief for 1925	£5,049

(2) NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

In November, 1920, the Royal Borough of Windsor extended its boundaries to include Clewer Without, and this added 1,899 acres to its area. The actual building area of the old Borough was only 350 acres, the remainder being Government or Crown property.

The highest part of the town is about 115 feet above river level, and stands on a chalk hill. There are strata of clay overlaying the chalk, and at a lower level, gravel and brick earth. The climate of Windsor is equable, and is specially suitable for young children and elderly people. I think the old idea of the necessary association of rheumatism with the Thames Valley should be scotched once for all. It is neither in keeping with one's experience, nor is it in keeping with modern scientific research. Acute rheumatism is indeed very rare.

Windsor is roughly twenty-five miles from London, and besides being served by two railway systems, is now linked up by road, to London by the L.G.O.C. buses, and other riverside towns by the Thames Valley Bus Company. All the local places of interest are well served by a regular service of motor buses. The Castle and St. George's Chapel, with Eton College, attract all the year round a constant flow of visitors, which is at its height during the summer months.

There are two barracks, occupied by Household Cavalry and Foot Guards respectively. Apart from two breweries, there is no special industry and no factory.

(3) EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS
OF THE YEAR.

				<i>Total</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Births : Legitimate	...	...	315	...	150	...	165
Illegitimate	...	...	19	...	12	...	7
Birth Rate	...	...	16.5	...		...
Deaths ...	...	...	215	...	104	...	111
Death Rate	...	...	11.1	...		...
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Child Birth—							
From Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 Births—

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>	
Deaths	7	14
Illegitimate	1	1

Rate per 1,000 Births—

Legitimate ... ..	...	...	...	...	41.1
Illegitimate ... ..	...	...	...	...	52.6
Total ... ..	...	...	...	...	44.4

The rate of 44.4 is a decided improvement on the 1924 figure, namely, 65.2.

Deaths from—

Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	<i>Nil</i>

Average Rates, 1915—1924 :

Births	19.04	Phthisis ... ..	.92
Deaths	13.98	Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis) ... ..	.24
Infantile Mortality	57.32	Cancer	1.50

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

HOSPITALS.

The town is extraordinarily well served by an up-to-date General Hospital with special departments : Orthopedic ; X-ray, both curative and diagnostic ; Ear, Nose and Throat ; Eye, Pathological, etc. There is a special ward for diseases of women, and a Children's Ward.

(1) *Tuberculosis.* Cases of both Pulmonary and Surgical Tuberculosis are admitted to either Peppard Sanatorium or Abingdon.

(2) *Maternity.* Princess Christian's Home, Alma Road, has only two beds, but it is hoped in the near future to extend the accommodation.

(3) *Children.* The Princess Christian's Crèche is now a residential Home for illegitimate children.

(4) *Fever*. This Authority has an arrangement with the Eton Rural Authority for the admission of case of infectious disease into their Hospital at Cippenham, four miles distant. The cost is £4 4s. per week, plus ambulance expenses.

(5) *Small Pox*. The Authority's own hospital, situated at Old Windsor, is a modern structure and is kept ready for any emergency at short notice. There is a horse drawn ambulance available belonging to the Council.

A motor ambulance kept at a local livery stable is obtainable for accidents or non-infectious cases, at a small charge.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Windsor Infant Welfare Centre has been established well over twelve years. It was started purely by voluntary effort of a Committee of enthusiastic ladies, with myself as Medical Officer. The pioneer work of these ladies has not been appreciated as it deserved to be, except by the hundreds of mothers who have passed through the Clinic; but after all, that is the main thing. The town owes a debt of gratitude to them for their regular, unselfish devotion and attendance every week throughout the year. In our early days, if we had an attendance of six mothers, about one more than the number of Committee present, we were delighted. When I say that during the last quarter of 1925, the average attendance was seventy-seven, one can be excused for being a little proud. The attendance of seventy-seven mothers means in addition seventy-seven babies and about twenty toddlers. The question of a Health Visitor has up to now been a great difficulty, as I do not consider there is sufficient work for a whole-time appointment. It was difficult to find somebody who either had private means or additional work to fill in the time. However, by the good will of the Matron of King Edward VII. Hospital, it has been made possible to find this additional work in the Out-patients' Department. This is being found an ideal arrangement, as in doing this work the Health Visitor comes in contact and gets to know from another point of view the mothers of the district. So now, at last, we have a fully qualified Health Visitor, recognised by the Ministry of Health, whose mornings are devoted to the Out-patients' Department, and afternoons to home visiting. Miss McAllister commenced her duties on October 1st last, and the arrangement is working admirably. During the stress of unemployment the Centre has been able to render help to those homes where the weekly wage made it impossible for the parents to buy the necessary nourishment for their babies.

Thanks to a generous donation from the State Apartments Fund, we have been able to carry out the good work on a larger scale than formerly.

The following figures refer to the visits paid by the Health Visitor during 1925 :—

Number of visits to Infants under 1 year	...	655
Number of visits to Children between 1-5 years		220
Special Visits	... ..	9

The Clinic, which is at the Old Infirmary Building, the Acre, is held weekly, every Friday afternoon from 2—4 o'clock.

The Clinic for Expectant Mothers, held at the Maternity Home, Alma Road, has been held once a month.

The number of patients examined during the year was 108, and the number of visits paid by the Matron and her staff to expectant mothers was 274.

After my advice two cases were admitted to Hospital for treatment.

The School Clinic, also held at the Old Infirmary Buildings, the Acre, every morning, has carried on successfully the treatment of minor ailments among the school children. The Clinic is run by the School Nurse with an assistant. Myself or partner make constant visits or go any time at the request of the School Nurse.

The number of minor ailments attended to during the year was 4,856.

The School Dentist also holds his clinic here, and one of us attends to administer gas to special cases.

The County Tubercular Officer from Reading, Dr. A. Richmond, attends the first Thursday in the month in the Labour Hall, St. Leonard's Road, and examines those cases that are already on the register, and any suspect can be sent by the doctors. Besides visiting in the homes, if necessary, Dr. Richmond will see any case of urgency apart from his routine visits.

Venereal Diseases. We have no local clinic. Cases can be sent to Reading Hospital. The question of a local clinic has been mooted several times and has been considered by the local Hospital Board. They have come to the conclusion that the fortunately small number of cases does not justify such expense. With this the local doctors agree.

The following table gives the number of notifiable infectious diseases since 1920 :—

<i>Disease.</i>	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Scarlet Fever	16	33	19	20	42	15
Diphtheria	13	12	6	1	1	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	—	—	2	1	—
Puerperal Fever... ..	—	—	—	—	—	2
Erysipelas	2	6	4	6	9	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	15	19	20	21	20
Surgical Tuberculosis ...	5	5	8	5	5	5
Encethalitis Lethargica	—	2	—	—	2	2
Infantile Paralysis ...	—	—	1	—	—	—

Only in the case of Diphtheria does there seem to be any real diminution in the number of cases. In the last three years only three cases were notified. The case occurring in 1925 was of a child who was known to be a nasal carrier and she was eventually admitted to hospital to undergo a surgical operation.

On the whole the cases of Scarlet Fever were of a mild type, and the cases spreading to the same household were uncommon, mainly because isolation and removal where necessary to Cippenham Fever Hospital are carried out promptly.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is available for immediate use, also the new Scarlet Fever Streptococcus Anti-toxin.

The examination of Pathological specimens is carried out at King Edward VII. Hospital, Windsor, and arrangements for Bacteriological examinations at the Lister Institute, London. Both these aids have been freely used. The Schick and Dick Tests have not been used.

The non-notifiable infectious diseases such as Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox and Mumps, occurring in the elementary schools are notified at once to me and the School Nurse.

Disinfection after deaths from cancer is becoming a routine. Bedding, blankets, clothes, etc., are removed and subjected to sterilization under heat and high pressure at the Destructor, Dedworth.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)
DURING THE YEAR 1925.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Total cases notified.</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Small Pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	15	12	1 (aged 19)
Diphtheria	1 nasal carrier	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever... ..	2	—	1 (aged 30)
Pneumonia	—	—	—
Encethalitis Lethargica	2	1	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1925.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>NEW CASES</i>				<i>DEATHS</i>			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulm.</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulm.</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
25	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	3	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
45	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals ...</i>	14	6	2	3	4	1	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Whole or Part Time</i>	<i>Other Appointments</i>
Medical Officer of Health ...	M.R.C.S., ... L.R.C.P. Lond.	Part ...	School Medical Officer.
Sanitary ... Inspector	Royal Sanitary Institute Certi- ficate as a Sani- tary Inspector, Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Ex- amination Board as a Sanitary Inspector. Royal Sanitary Institute Certi- ficate as Inspec- tor of Meat and other Foods.	Whole	Inspector under the Sale of Food & Drugs Acts. Designated Offi- cer under the Public Health (Meat) Regu- lations, 1924. Canal Boats Inspector. Designated Offi- cer under the Housing Act.
Health ... Visitor ...	Health Visitors Certificate of Royal Sanitary: Institute. ... Diploma C.M.B.	Part	Mornings occu- pied in Out- patients' De- partment, King Edward VII. Hospital.
School Nurse	Qualified Nurse Diploma C.M.B.	Whole	

HOME NURSING.

(a) GENERAL.—For necessitous cases a District Nurse is available, and Private Nurses are supplied in other cases for a small visiting fee. The Health Visitor and School Nurse also visit in cases of emergency.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—If necessary and upon the request of the doctor attending, the Council allow the Medical Officer of Health to arrange for a nurse to attend.

MIDWIVES.

Number practising in area 8

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

All the general adoptive acts are in force in the Borough.
Byelaws are in force respecting :—

Slaughter Houses.

Common Lodging Houses.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Nuisances.

New Streets and Buildings.

Keeping of Animals.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF AREA.

Water.—The Waterworks are situated in Tangier Lane off Eton High Street. The water is obtained from the percolation of River water by sinking iron cylinders into the chalk bed. It is then purified by passage through Candy “De Clor” pressure filters. The supply is constant and the regular samples examined have shewn it to be bacteriologically free and of the highest purity.

Rivers and Streams.—No pollution has come to the notice of the Local Authority under this heading.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The sewerage of the town is efficient and the sewage is disposed of by open irrigation on land at Old Windsor.

Closet Accommodation.—Only water closets exist in the Borough, a few exist that are without proper apparatus for flushing, this matter is receiving attention. During 1925 eighteen water closets were provided with flushing apparatus.

Scavenging.—This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer. House refuse is collected weekly, arrangements are also made for the collection of trade refuse. All refuse is removed to the destructor at Dedworth and burnt.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector, which is attached hereto, contains full details of this work.

SCHOOLS.

The schools are regularly inspected. Disinfection is carried out during the holidays, and no special insanitary conditions were discovered during the year.

HOUSING.

General Housing Conditions in area.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Extent of shortage or excess. | A shortage exists. |
| (b) Measures taken or contemplated | Council are at present building 58 houses, and have a further scheme in view. |
| (c) Information as to changes in population expected ... | No serious change is anticipated. |

Overcrowding.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (a) Extent | Some bad cases exist, but they are not very numerous. |
| (b) Causes | Shortage of houses. |
| (c) Principal cases and measures taken during 1925 ... | Any cases coming to the notice of the Health Officers are, if suitable, recommended for one of the Council's houses. |

Fitness of Houses.

There are many houses in the District which require repair; much has been done by the Sanitary Inspector during the year for the improvement of many dwellings.

Unhealthy Areas.

The houses to replace the unfit dwellings in the River Street area are in course of erection.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) Total | 41 |
| (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919, 1923, or 1924— | |
| (i) By the Local Authority | — |
| (ii) By other bodies or persons | 6 |

UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

I.—INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	435
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	125
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	16
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	83

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	91
--	----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. *Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	29
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	24
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close	—

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	20
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

C. *Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act. 1909—*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	10
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	...	...	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	—
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	—

MILK SUPPLY.

Considerable improvement has taken place during the year in the cowsheds.

Any action <i>re</i> tuberculous milk	...	...	...	—
Number of Licences G.A.	...	...	...	2
Refusal or Revocation	...	...	...	—

MEAT.

The Sanitary Inspector, who is also qualified as regards the inspection of meat, was appointed to carry out the duties under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations. These Regulations have been well met by the butchers, and with one exception all the shops have glass windows. A list of unsound food dealt with will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector attached.

OTHER FOODS.

Inspections were made at frequent intervals of all premises where food is prepared or sold, the shops generally are well kept and no cause was found for complaint in relation to bakehouses.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Forty-nine samples of food were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis; they consisted of—

<i>Samples.</i>				<i>Samples.</i>			
Milk	...	...	19	Borax	...	...	2
Butter	...	...	11	Ice Cream	...	...	3
Whiskey	...	...	6	Lard	...	...	2
Sausages	...	...	1	Cocoa	...	...	1
Fish Paste	...	...	2	Preserved Cream	...	...	2

With the exception of two informal samples of whisky, all the samples were certified to be genuine.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS 1912 AND 1917.

Report for the year ending 31st December, 1925.

1. MILK AND CREAM NOT SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

	<i>Milk</i>		<i>Cream</i>	
(a) Number of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative ...	19	...	Nil	
(b) Number in which Preservative was reported to be present and percentage of Preservative found in each sample ...	Nil	...	Nil	

2. CREAM SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct—				
(i) Correct statements made ...	...	...	2	
(ii) Statements incorrect ...	...	...	Nil	
Total ...	...	...	2	
(iii) Percentage of preservative found in sample each ...	...	...	.23,	.27
Percentage stated on Statutory Label in each case ...	...	...	...	.4
(b) Determinations made of Milk Fat in Cream sold as Preserved Cream—				
(i) Above 35 per cent. ...	...	...	2	
(ii) Below 35 per cent. ...	...	...	Nil	
(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article V. (2) of the Regulations have not been observed—			Nil	
(d) Particulars in each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken—			Nil	

3. THICKENING SUBSTANCES.

(a) Any evidence of their addition to Cream or to Preserved Cream	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.
(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector)

					<i>Written</i>	<i>Occupiers</i>
			<i>Inspections</i>		<i>Notices</i>	<i>prosecuted</i>
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	...	...	6	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	...	...	43	...	1	<i>Nil</i>
Workplaces	...	...	12	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
			—		—	—
Total	...	...	61	...	1	<i>Nil</i>

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORK-PLACES.

					<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	1	1

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES
 SECTION 108.

In no instance was any outwork found to be carried on in unwholesome premises.

I have the honour to be, Mrs. Carey and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. DOUGLAS CROFTS.

March 24th, 1926.

BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1925.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR, MRS. CAREY AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit my REPORT for the year ending
31st December, 1925.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT).

In accordance with my duties as your designated Officer under these Regulations, I have made inspections of one hundred and twenty-five houses regarding the following matters :—

- (1) Water Supply.
- (2) Closet accommodation.
- (3) Drainage.
- (4) Paving and drainage of yards and outbuildings.
- (5) Arrangements for deposit of house refuse.
- (6) Existence of underground rooms.
- (7) Overcrowding.
- (8) Cleanliness.
- (9) Other matters likely to be detrimental to health.

Below is a list showing the streets in which more than one inspection was made :—

Acre Passage ...	...	2	Oxford Road ...	...	11
Albion Place ...	...	2	Queen's Road ...	...	2
Albert Street ...	...	6	Rectory Lane ...	...	5
Alma Road ...	...	4	River Street ...	...	13
Arthur Road ...	...	6	Russell Street ...	...	4
Bridgewater Terrace	12		Spital ...	...	6
Clarence Clump ...	...	2	St. Leonard's Road	...	5
Clewer Fields ...	...	11	Victor Road ...	...	4
Clewer Village ...	...	3	Other Inspections	...	12
Goswell Hill ...	...	5			
Grove Road ...	...	2	<i>Total</i> ...	...	125
King's Road ...	...	8			

A detailed record of each inspection has been kept.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	125
Number of houses totally unfit for human habitation	...				16
Number of houses not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	83
Notices outstanding on 31st December, 1924—					
Formal ...	...	...	...	...	9
Informal ...	...	...	...	...	28
Notices served since December 31st, 1924—					
Formal ...	...	...	...	...	29
Informal ...	...	...	...	...	73
Notices complied with since 31st December, 1924—					
Formal ...	...	...	...	...	24
Informal ...	...	...	...	...	91
Notices outstanding on 31st December, 1925—					
Formal ...	...	...	...	...	14
Informal ...	...	...	...	...	10
Number of Closing Orders issued	...	...	...	...	2

One house (5, Collin's Buildings) has been voluntarily closed by the owners.

In addition to these inspections three hundred and ten other dwelling-houses were inspected under the Public Health Acts.

Notices outstanding on 31st December, 1924—					
Formal ...	...	...	...	...	0
Informal ...	...	...	...	...	14

Notices served since 31st December, 1924—

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	...	120

Notices complied with since 31st December, 1924—

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	...	113

Notices outstanding on 31st December, 1925—

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	...	21

Overcrowding was found to exist in sixteen instances as against ten for 1924. In eight cases the overcrowding has been remedied.

COMPLAINTS.

The number of complaints received was 122 ; they referred to the following matters :—

Insanitary conditions in dwelling-houses	23
Stoppages in, and defective drains	11
Insanitary water closets and urinals	7
Defective doors, floors and roofs	6
Dangerous ceilings	4
Defective street paving	2
Dampness	2
Absence of proper refuse receptacles	2
Absence of proper sanitary conveniences at fairgrounds	3
Offensive accumulations	11
Overcrowding	6
Dirty premises (tenant's neglect)	4
Nuisances from keeping of animals	12
Offensive smells	10
Nuisances from vermin, flies, etc.	4
Unsound condition of food	2
Nuisances from smoke	4
Rats	3
Miscellaneous	6
<hr/>	
<i>Total</i>	122
<hr/>	

Each complaint was immediately investigated and the necessary action taken to have the nuisance complained of abated.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are five registered slaughter houses in your district. The condition of these premises has been improved during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

On 1st April, 1925, the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, came into operation. The number of carcasses inspected are specified below :—

Cattle	233
Sheep and Lambs	1138
Pigs	1389
Calves	341
<i>Total</i>	<hr/> 3101 <hr/>

Under these Regulations four butchers gave notice of regular times of slaughtering.

Total number of notifications of intention to slaughter outside the usual times of slaughtering	94
Notifications received from butchers ...	84
Notifications received from cottagers ...	10

There was no seizure of unsound food during the year.

The following list shows the articles surrendered to me for destruction, on my certificate that they were unfit for human food :—

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Reason Why Unfit</i>	<i>Weight</i>		
		<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Two beef carcasses and internal organs	Generalized Tuberculosis	12	2	0
Portions of beef carcasses and internal organs ...	Localized Tuberculosis	4	0	2
Seven pork carcasses and internal organs	Generalized Tuberculosis	6	0	6
Portions of pork carcasses and organs	Localized Tuberculosis	3	10	
Two pork carcasses and internal organs	Jaundice	2	14	
One mutton carcass and internal organs	Nephritis	1	22	
One beast's tongue ...	Actinomycosis			8
Portion of pork carcass ...	Rheumatism			14
Portion of pork carcass ...	Pleurisy			12
Sow's Udders	Mastitis			5
Eight beasts' livers ...	Liver Fluke	3	1	
One beast's liver	Abscess			14
Nineteen pigs' livers ...	Cirrhosis	2	8	
Portions of beef carcasses ...	Decomposition	1	1	1
Portions of pork carcasses ...	Decomposition	1	14	
Portions of mutton carcasses	Decomposition	2	10	
Sausages	Decomposition			20
Tripe	Decomposition			11
Fish	Decomposition	2	2	21
	<i>Total</i> ...	31	1	25

The unsound food is all destroyed at the Council's refuse destructor at Dedworth, a special door has been constructed so that carcasses of meat may be dealt with easily.

Application was made to the Minister of Health to sanction the use of a meat marking stamp, this sanction was given. The marking of meat is entirely at the option of the butchers, and no application for the marking of meat has yet been received.

The provisions of the Regulations regarding cleanliness have been, on the whole, well observed. The objectionable practice of hanging meat outside shops has been stopped, and, with one exception, the butcher's shops all have glass windows.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The table below shows the number and kind of article purchased for analysis during the year.

<i>Nature of Sample</i>	<i>Num. purchased</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Remarks on Genuine Samples</i>	<i>No. adulterated</i>	<i>Nature of adulteration</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Milk	18	18	No preservatives or colouring matter.	—		
Separated Milk	1	1	No preservatives or colouring matter.	—		
Butter	11	11	Six contained Boric Acid, .05, .05, .22, .04, .03, .08%. Two informal.			
Whiskey	6	4	Four informal.	2	4.45% deficient in proof spirit. 7.267% deficient in proof spirit.	Official Samples were taken, these proved genuine.
Sausages	1	1	Contained 9.8 grains Boric Acid per lb.	—		
Fish paste	2	2	No preservatives.	—		
Ice Cream	3	3	No preservatives.	—		
Cocoa	1	1	No preservatives.	—		
Borax	2	2	Two informal.	—		
Lard	2	2	Two informal.	—		
Preserved Cream	2	2	Two contained Boric Acid, .23%, .37%.			
	49	47		2		

The average composition of the eighteen samples of milk submitted was :—

Non-fatty solids	...	...	...	8.98%
Fat	...	...	...	3.76%
Water	...	...	...	87.26%
				<hr/>
				100.00%
				<hr/>

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SHOPS.

The number of inspections made of these premises were sixty-one. The number of these premises on register is as follows :—

Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	20
Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Wholesale Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	21
Number of Cowsheds	...	...	...	9

Two cowsheds were found to be without a proper water supply for cleaning purposes. Informal notices secured the provision of a proper water supply in each case.

Two dairies are licensed for the bottling of Grade " A " Tuberculin Tested Milk. One Dairy is licensed to sell Grade " A " Tuberculin Tested Milk, and one dairy is licensed to sell certified milk.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of these premises on your register is 203 ; the number of inspections made were sixty-one.

One notice was served and was complied with.

One list of outworkers was received, the outworkers' premises were inspected and found satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

On the instructions of your Medical Officer of Health, each case of infectious disease notified was investigated. The infected rooms and bedding were disinfected, and exclusion notices were sent to the schools where necessary.

A thorough inspection was also made of each house where infectious disease occurred, and the drains were tested.

In four instances the drains at houses where infectious disease occurred were found to be in a defective condition.

Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	82
Number of hospitals disinfected	...	...	1
Number of schools disinfected	...	...	9
Number of articles disinfected	...	...	1024
Number of articles destroyed	...	...	38

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are three Common Lodging Houses ; the sanitary conveniences at these premises are regularly inspected and have been found to be in good order.

DRAIN TESTING.

The number of drains tested were fifty-one, and in thirty-eight instances defects were found. Re-tests for builders after repairs numbered thirty-six.

The test applied for old drains is smoke under pressure, the water test is used for all new work.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

Frequent visits were made to the river-side for the purpose of canal boat inspection. On no occasion was a boat found there.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

In one instance it was necessary to institute legal proceedings for failure to comply with the notice served with respect to the abating of a nuisance. The Court made an order for the nuisance to be abated within twenty-eight days.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Four complaints were received during the year with regard to smoke nuisances from factory chimneys. Observations were made and a visit paid to the premises concerned. It was found that in each case the nuisance was due to bad stoking, and verbal warnings secured the abatement of the nuisances.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS AND NUISANCES DISCOVERED.

Defective drains and soil pipes	...	...	...	45
Dilapidated water closets and outbuildings	...	...	...	17
Defective water closet roofs, cisterns, basins, traps, etc.	...	...	...	125
Insufficient water closet accommodation	...	...	...	3
Insufficient ash receptacles	...	...	...	81
Defective rain water spouting	...	...	...	55
Insanitary yard surfaces	...	...	...	60
Dirty houses and premises (tenant's neglect)	...	...	...	16
Dirty internal walls and ceilings	...	...	...	90
Defective house roofs, floors, walls, windows, window-frames, door frames, etc.	...	...	...	270
Damp walls and floors	...	...	...	65
Verminous walls	...	...	...	5
Defective fireplaces	...	...	...	22
Absence of, or insanitary sinks	...	...	...	20
Absence of proper locks and fasteners to doors and windows	...	...	...	3
Stoppages in drains	...	...	...	25
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	20
Dirty walls and ceilings (after infectious disease)	...	...	...	6
Nuisances from keeping animals	...	...	...	16
Dangerous steps	...	...	...	10
Absence of handrails to stairs	...	...	...	6
Defective coppers	...	...	...	25
Dirty water closet basins	...	...	...	5
Defective stairs	...	...	...	15
Broken sash cords	...	...	...	25
No grids to drain inlets	...	...	...	6
Defective kitchen ranges	...	...	...	8
Insanitary waste pipes	...	...	...	10
Overcrowded dwelling-houses	...	...	...	16
No mica flaps to air inlets	...	...	...	5
Defective ventilation grates	...	...	...	2
Defective plaster and cementing	...	...	...	40
Absence of proper water supply	...	...	...	15
Defective flues	...	...	...	2
Nuisances from smoke	...	...	...	4
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	1138

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE.

Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	4592
Number of houses inspected under the Housing Acts				125
Number of houses inspected (infectious disease and dis- infection)	...	...	...	61
Number of premises inspected for the detection of nuisances, etc.	...	...	...	186
Number of premises inspected on complaint				124
Number of visits paid to Food Premises	...	...		900
Number of visits paid to Slaughter-houses	...	...		1145
Number of visits paid to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk- shops	...	...	...	61
Number of visits paid to Factories and Workshops				61
Number of visits paid to Marine Stores	...	...		9
Number of visits paid to Knacker's Yards	...	...		8
Number of visits paid to Common Lodging Houses	...			22
Number of visits paid to Bakehouses	...	...		27
Number of Ice Cream Vendors' premises inspected	...			4
Number of inspections made under the Rent Restriction Act	...	...	...	1
Number of re-inspections made	...	...		645
Number of drain tests made	...	...		87
Number of inspections and interviews with owners and builders	...	...	...	1126

In conclusion I beg to thank you for the continuous support you have given me during the past year. These thanks are also extended to your various officials for the kind and willing assistance they have rendered.

Trusting that the work done will give you satisfaction.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Carey and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. ARNOLD,

Sanitary Inspector.

